

**REMARKS**

The instant amendment first inserts reference to parent application no. 09/849,343, and to its corresponding foreign priority application. The amendment also cancels claims 1-9 and 14-16 without prejudice or disclaimer, amends claims 10-13, and adds new claims 17-40. Thus, claims 10-13 and 17-40 are pending in the application.

Claims 10-13 were withdrawn from examination in parent application 09/849,343 due to a Restriction Requirement. This divisional application simply presents claims 10-13 in independent form, reciting the subject matter of the parent application's allowed claim 14 as the "stabilized protein preparation." Claims 17-40 depend from claims 10-13 and recite the subject matter of the parent application's allowed claims 15-20 as the "stabilized protein preparation."

These amendments are supported by the application as a whole, including, for example, original claims 1-16 and the application at page 6, lines 7-12. The amendments do not introduce new matter. Applicants respectfully request their entry and submit that the claims are in condition for allowance.

If any fee is due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, that is not otherwise accounted for, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 12, 2004

By: Elizabeth A. Doherty  
Elizabeth A. Doherty  
Reg. No. 50,894

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
www.finnegan.com